# Confidence Talks With Cobbler Hans

People Tell Him of Their Trouble and He Helps Them Out of It.

[Copyright, 1906, by Ruby Douglas.] F you whas a blacksmith you whas too noisy; if you vhas an undertaker you whas too solemn; if you vhas der ice man you vhas too cold hearted; if you whas der coal man you vhas in der combine. It vhas vhen you vhas a cobbler und all alone in your shop dot peoples come in und gif you deir confidence und vhant some sympathy. I keep in my window all der time a sign reading:

"Here whas some sympathy und confidence for all. Come in und tell der cobbler all about it."

Und peoples come in almost every hour, und everybody brings some shoe: to mend. I just get my shop open der odder morning when a woman comes in mit her shoes in her hand und tears



MIT SHOES IN HER HAND UND TEARS IN

in her eyes. She vhas short und fat und motherly, und she had been weep

"Hans, talk to me in confidence," she says as she hands me der shoes. 'Vhat vhas der trubbles?" I says.

"Shust der same ash for five years past. My husband says I vhas too short und too fat. He makes fun of me und calls me names. Dis morning he says I better go mit some side show ash der fat womans. He says I don't have some soul in me. He says I can't tell der difference between a glorious sunset und a hog in a pen. If I shake der house vhen I walk he calls me an earthquake. Hans, my heart vhas broke, und I don't know vhat to do."

I let her cry for five minutes, und den I says:

"My dear womans, you don't do nottings. I haf seen your husband, and ! know he vhas a runt of a man who don't weight a hundred pounds. He whas shealous of you."

"But am I not too fat?" she asks. "You vhasn't fat enough, Venus weighed ten pounds more than you do Vhen she gets into a street car do: end of it sinks down. She has an arm like a hitching post, und it whas so far around her dot a child gets tired of walking. Shakespeare says, 'Gif me a fat woman und I will gif you an angel.' Vhas dot husband of yours a bigger

"But don't I have some souls and sentiment?"

man dan Shakespeare?"

"More ash a carload, my good womans. Your soul whas ash big ash whole calfskin, und I bet you don't go down to Coney Island und see der waves break on der beach mitout you make oop some poetry."

"Yes, dot vhas so. Last week vhen I vhas down dere I come home und

"I stood upon the sandy shore; The tide was full and high, And my enraptured gaze beheld
A dead horse floating by.

"I read dot to my husband, und he says it whas no poetry-nothing spir Ituelle about it."

"Dot vhas shealousy some more. He can't write poetry himself, und so he don't vhant you to. A dead horse vhas spirituelle if he vhas of de right color. Go home, young womans-go home und know you vhas all right. Vhy, if some one comes here und says to me vhas dere some womans around here to be an angel in a procession I mention your name first of all. Yes, sir, you bet, und der newspapers fall over each odder to

get your picture." "Hans, you vhas der best man living," says dot vomans. Und vhen she goes out she vhas smiling und making some dimples in her fat cheeks.

Dot same day an old man comes in to have a cement patch on his shoe for 15 cents. He sits down mit a grunt und don't say nottings for ten min-

utes. Den he speaks oop: "Cobbler, I vhas courting a widow womans. I belief I spend one hooner dollars in one year buying her presents She says she vhill marry me, but when she finds I don't own some brewery she throws me down. Vhen I talk back to her she calls me an old fossil und say: I have one foot in der grave, und det never in her life vhill she marry has grandfather."

"Und dot hurts your feelings, ch?"

says. "Mebbe It does, Cobbler, be honest

mit me. Vhas I a back number? Vha I on der brink of der grave?"

I loog at him for two minutes. He vhas more ash seventy years old, und he looks to be muety. I looks und

looks, und den I laughs und says: "My boy, when you come into dis shop a few minutes ago I bellef it whas a young man who had knocked der heel off his shoe. If you vhas over forty-five I eat cop all my sole leather und let der trust rob me some more."

"Hans, I vhas depending on you." "Und so you can, but you can never, never depend on some widow womans. She like to marry you for your property. She likes to be rich und swell around und have it in der papers det she kill somebody mit her automobile. Vhen she finds you vhas no Vanderbilt she vhas mad und speaks out. Vhy, I have been through dot same mill ash much ash ten times,'

"Und I vhas all right?" he says as he begins to smile.

"Nobody could be righter. Vhy, mans you shall marry twice yet before you dle. Let dot selfish, disappointed widow womans go by Texas und do you hunt oop some young girl to be your wife.

"Hang me if I don't. Say, cobbler your head vhas screwed on der right vhay. If I talk mit President Roose velt I don't belief he do me so much good. Take a quarter for dot batch und say nottings to nobody. Vhen 1 get married I send you a bottle of

Und den comes in a young man. He tries to be very flip ash he says he whants some lifts put on his heels, but I can see dot he haf some trubbles on his mind. I don't say nottings, und he whistles und sings for ten minutes. Den he drops his voice down und says:

"Cobbler, vhas you ever in love?" "Twenty different times, my son." "Und did you ever ask a girl to marry

"Der same twenty." "It vhas all right if you vhas in love mit a girl, but how can you tell if she whas in love mit you?"

"Dere vhas one hoonered ways. If dot girl lets you hold her hand while you vhas riding en der street car she vhas in love mit you und you can bet

"Yes, I think the same, but suppose she'd laugh at me vhen I asked her to be my wife?"

"Young man, don't you be afraid. Der good Lord put males und females into dis world to mate. He put men und womans here to love und marry. Dere vhas some Shacks for all der Jills. Dot girl vhas shust as anxious to marry ash you whas, only she must wait to be asked. How far avhay does she live?" "Right around der corner."

"Vhell, here vhas a pair of shoes for you to put on. You go right around der corner und ask her to be your wife." "Lord, cobbler, but dot vhas awful

"Marriage vhas like a boil. Der sooner it comes to a head der better. Don't Don't get der shakes. Don't stop around ash if you Shust walk right oop dare und be back in feefteen minutes.'

him outdoors, but he takes a long breath und walks off. In ten minutes

Obliged to Lie With Limbs Higher Than Head - Suffered Untold Agonies and Could Not Walk -Doctor Said It Was the Worst Case he Ever Saw.

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he vhas back, and sooch a happy man never saw. He shakes me by one hand und by both hands, und he gives me half a dollar extra, und vhen he goes avhay joy sticks out all over him.

Maybe I make more money if I vhas president of a trust und rob der peoples all I could, but a lectle shop und der good will of der leoples vhas enough for me shust now.

M. QUAD.

Honeymoon. The Bride-George, w-what was that last station the brakeman called out? The Bridegroom-I don't know, my

dear, but what's the use to find out? Every station is Paradise with us just now.-Chicago News. Why Not!

Munn-I discovered a curious thing about one of my bens the other day. She eats tacks.

Chausen-And lays carpets?-Judge.

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The Gentleman on the Fence-Not of drop.-Sketch.

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Som' day mebbe I weell see W'at my fortune gona be. Eef I could be parrakeet Dat she eesa keess so sweet I am sure I would be wise Jus' for lookin' een her eyes. Mebbe so I be so smart I find fortune een her heart! Dat'sa kinda fortune, too, Dat I weesh ees gon' com' true. A. Daly in Catholie Standard and

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT Saturday, the 13th day of October, 1906, the Committee on Streets and Public Ways of the Common Council City of Astoria will receive sealed bids of the city of Astoria will receive sealed for improving Exchange street from the bids for repairing Commercial street, from the east line of 9th to west line of 14th street, as ordered improved by ordinance No. 3309, approved on the 6th day of October, 1906. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids. JENS H. HANSEN.

J. J. ROBINSON, P. L. STANGLAND, Committee on Streets and Public Ways. 10-7-4t

NOTICE OF RECEIVING BIDS BY CITY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT up to the hour of 2 o'clock p. m., on Saturday, the 13th day of October, 1906, the Committee on Streets and Public Ways of the Common Council Saturday, the 13th day of October, 1906, of the City of Astoria, will receive the Committee on Streets and Public sealed bids for repairing McClure's Ways of the Common Council of the drain No. 1, from a point 10 feet east City of Astoria, will receive bids for of west line of 9th street, to a point improving Exchange street from the 100 feet of west line of 9th street, as west line of 9th street to a point 8 ordered improved by ordinance No. 3308, feet west of the east line of 8th street, approved on the 6th day of October, as ordered improved by ordinance No. 1906. The right is reserved to reject 3301, approved on the 18th day of Sepany and all bids.

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NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE.

ways, city surveyor and the superinup to the hour or 2 o'clock p. m., on tendent of streets, have filed a certificate of the completion of the improvement of 7th street, from the south line of Niagara avenue, to the north line of Bay avenue, by E. A. Gerding, the contractor, and unless objections are filed against the same, the same will be accepted by ordinance at the next regular meeting of the common council. OLOF ANDERSON, Auditor and Police Judge of the City of

Astoria. 9-29-31

Dated September 29, 1906.

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